DOCKET NO.: ISRT-0327/RTS-0327 PATENT

Application No.: 10/000,213

Office Action Dated: March 12, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An oligonucleotide A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding human vitamin D nuclear receptor (SEQ ID NO:3), wherein said oligonucleotide compound specifically hybridizes with said nucleic acid molecule encoding human vitamin D nuclear receptor and inhibits the expression of human vitamin D nuclear receptor, and wherein the oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

- 2. (currently amended) The <u>oligonucleotide eompound</u> of claim 1 which is an antisense oligonucleotide.
 - 3. cancelled
- 4. (currently amended) The <u>oligonucleotide</u> eompound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.
- 5. (currently amended) The <u>oligonucleotide</u> eompound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.
- 6. (currently amended) The <u>oligonucleotide</u> eompound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.
- 7. (currently amended) The <u>oligonucleotide</u> eompound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.
- 8. (currently amended) The <u>oligonucleotide</u> compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.
- 9. (currently amended) The <u>oligonucleotide</u> eompound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.
 - 10. cancelled.

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11. (currently amended) An oligonucleotide A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length which specifically hybridizes with at least an 8-nucleobase portion of an active site on a nucleic acid molecule encoding vitamin D nuclear receptor, wherein the oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

- 12. (currently amended) An oligonucleotide A compound comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
- 13. (currently amended) The <u>oligonucleotide</u> compound of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.
- 14. (currently amended) The <u>oligonucleotide</u> compound of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.
- 15. (currently amended) A method of inhibiting the expression of vitamin D nuclear receptor in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues with the <u>oligonucleotide</u> empound of claim 1 so that expression of vitamin D nuclear receptor is inhibited.
- 16. (currently amended) A method of treating an animal having a disease or condition associated with vitamin D nuclear receptor comprising administering to said animal an a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of the oligonucleotide compound of claim 1 so that expression of vitamin D nuclear receptor is inhibited.
 - 17. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein the disease or condition is cancer.
- 18. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein the disease or condition is a developmental disorder.
- 19. (withdrawn) The compound of claim 1 targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding vitamin D nuclear reactor, wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with and differentially inhibits the expression of one of the variants of vitamin D nuclear receptor relative to the remaining variants of vitamin D nuclear receptor.

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20. (withdrawn) The compound of claims 19 targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding vitamin D nuclear receptor, wherein said compound hybridizes with and specifically inhibits the expression of a variant of vitamin D nuclear receptor, wherein said variant is selected from the group consisting of VDR-type I, VDR-type II, VDR-type III and VDR-type IV.

- 21. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises a composite structure of two or more oligonucleotides, selected from oligoribonucleotides, oligodeoxynucleotides, modified oligonucleotides, oligonucleosides or oligonucleotide mimetics.
- 22. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 21 wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.
- 23. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 22 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.
- 24. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 21 wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.
- 25. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 24 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.
- 26. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 21 wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.
- 27. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 26 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.
- 28. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 21 wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises at least one ribonucleotide and at least one deoxyribonucleotide.

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29. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 28, wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises a central region of 2'-deoxynucleotides, a 5'-flanking region of 2'-O-methoxyethyl (2'-MOE) nucleotides, and a 3'- flanking region of 2'-O-methoxyethyl (2'-MOE) nucleotides.

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